

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Sections
5 21B-40 and 21B-50 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/21B-40)

7 Sec. 21B-40. Fees.

8 (a) Beginning with the start of the new licensure system
9 established pursuant to this Article, the following fees shall
10 be charged to applicants:

11 (1) A \$100 application fee for a Professional Educator
12 License or an Educator License with Stipulations.
13 ~~Beginning on July 1, 2018, the license renewal fee for an~~
14 ~~Educator License with Stipulations with a paraprofessional~~
15 ~~educator endorsement shall be \$25.~~

16 (1.5) A \$50 application fee for a Substitute Teaching
17 License. If the application for a Substitute Teaching
18 License is made and granted after July 1, 2017, the
19 licensee may apply for a refund of the application fee
20 within 18 months of issuance of the new license and shall
21 be issued that refund by the State Board of Education if
22 the licensee provides evidence to the State Board of
23 Education that the licensee has taught pursuant to the

1 Substitute Teaching License at least 10 full school days
2 within one year of issuance.

3 (1.7) A \$25 application fee for a Short-Term Substitute
4 Teaching License. The Short-Term Substitute Teaching
5 License must be registered in at least one region in this
6 State, but does not require a registration fee. The
7 licensee may apply for a refund of the application fee
8 within 18 months of issuance of the new license and shall
9 be issued that refund by the State Board of Education if
10 the licensee provides evidence to the State Board of
11 Education that the licensee has taught pursuant to the
12 Short-Term Substitute Teaching License at least 10 full
13 school days within one year of issuance.

14 (2) A \$150 application fee for individuals who have not
15 been entitled by an Illinois-approved educator preparation
16 program at an Illinois institution of higher education and
17 are seeking any of the licenses set forth in subdivision
18 (1) of this subsection (a).

19 (3) A \$50 application fee for each endorsement or
20 approval.

21 (4) A \$10 per year registration fee for the course of
22 the validity cycle to register the license, which shall be
23 paid to the regional office of education having supervision
24 and control over the school in which the individual holding
25 the license is to be employed. If the individual holding
26 the license is not yet employed, then the license may be

1 registered in any county in this State. The registration
2 fee must be paid in its entirety the first time the
3 individual registers the license for a particular validity
4 period in a single region. No additional fee may be charged
5 for that validity period should the individual
6 subsequently register the license in additional regions.
7 An individual must register the license (i) immediately
8 after initial issuance of the license and (ii) at the
9 beginning of each renewal cycle if the individual has
10 satisfied the renewal requirements required under this
11 Code.

12 Beginning on July 1, 2017, at the beginning of each
13 renewal cycle, individuals who hold a Substitute Teaching
14 License may apply for a reimbursement of the registration
15 fee within 18 months of renewal and shall be issued that
16 reimbursement by the State Board of Education from funds
17 appropriated for that purpose if the licensee provides
18 evidence to the State Board of Education that the licensee
19 has taught pursuant to the Substitute Teaching License at
20 least 10 full school days within one year of renewal.

21 (5) The license renewal fee for an Educator License
22 with Stipulations with a paraprofessional educator
23 endorsement is \$25.

24 (b) All application fees paid pursuant to subdivisions (1)
25 through (3) of subsection (a) of this Section shall be
26 deposited into the Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving Fund and

1 shall be used, subject to appropriation, by the State Board of
2 Education to provide the technology and human resources
3 necessary for the timely and efficient processing of
4 applications and for the renewal of licenses. Funds available
5 from the Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving Fund may also be
6 used by the State Board of Education to support the recruitment
7 and retention of educators, to support educator preparation
8 programs as they seek national accreditation, and to provide
9 professional development aligned with the requirements set
10 forth in Section 21B-45 of this Code. A majority of the funds
11 in the Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving Fund must be dedicated
12 to the timely and efficient processing of applications and for
13 the renewal of licenses. The Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving
14 Fund is not subject to administrative charge transfers,
15 authorized under Section 8h of the State Finance Act, from the
16 Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving Fund into any other fund of
17 this State, and moneys in the Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving
18 Fund shall not revert back to the General Revenue Fund at any
19 time.

20 The regional superintendent of schools shall deposit the
21 registration fees paid pursuant to subdivision (4) of
22 subsection (a) of this Section into the institute fund
23 established pursuant to Section 3-11 of this Code.

24 (c) The State Board of Education and each regional office
25 of education are authorized to charge a service or convenience
26 fee for the use of credit cards for the payment of license

1 fees. This service or convenience fee shall not exceed the
2 amount required by the credit card processing company or vendor
3 that has entered into a contract with the State Board or
4 regional office of education for this purpose, and the fee must
5 be paid to that company or vendor.

6 (d) If, at the time a certificate issued under Article 21
7 of this Code is exchanged for a license issued under this
8 Article, a person has paid registration fees for any years of
9 the validity period of the certificate and these years have not
10 expired when the certificate is exchanged, then those fees must
11 be applied to the registration of the new license.

12 (Source: P.A. 99-58, eff. 7-16-15; 99-920, eff. 1-6-17;
13 100-550, eff. 11-8-17; 100-596, eff. 7-1-18; 100-772, eff.
14 8-10-18; revised 10-1-18.)

15 (105 ILCS 5/21B-50)

16 Sec. 21B-50. Alternative educator licensure program.

17 (a) There is established an alternative educator licensure
18 program, to be known as the Alternative Educator Licensure
19 Program for Teachers.

20 (b) The Alternative Educator Licensure Program for
21 Teachers may be offered by a recognized institution approved to
22 offer educator preparation programs by the State Board of
23 Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation
24 and Licensure Board.

25 The program shall be comprised of 4 phases:

1 (1) A course of study that at a minimum includes
2 instructional planning; instructional strategies,
3 including special education, reading, and English language
4 learning; classroom management; and the assessment of
5 students and use of data to drive instruction.

6 (2) A year of residency, which is a candidate's
7 assignment to a full-time teaching position or as a
8 co-teacher for one full school year. An individual must
9 hold an Educator License with Stipulations with an
10 alternative provisional educator endorsement in order to
11 enter the residency and must complete additional program
12 requirements that address required State and national
13 standards, pass the State Board's teacher performance
14 assessment no later than the end of the first semester of
15 his or her second year of residency ~~assessment of~~
16 ~~professional teaching before entering the second residency~~
17 ~~year~~, as required under phase (3) of this subsection (b),
18 and be recommended by the principal or qualified equivalent
19 of a principal, as required under subsection (d) of this
20 Section, and the program coordinator to continue with the
21 second year of the residency.

22 (3) A second year of residency, which shall include the
23 candidate's assignment to a full-time teaching position
24 for one school year. The candidate must be assigned an
25 experienced teacher to act as a mentor and coach the
26 candidate through the second year of residency.

1 (4) A comprehensive assessment of the candidate's
2 teaching effectiveness, as evaluated by the principal or
3 qualified equivalent of a principal, as required under
4 subsection (d) of this Section, and the program
5 coordinator, at the end of the second year of residency. If
6 there is disagreement between the 2 evaluators about the
7 candidate's teaching effectiveness, the candidate may
8 complete one additional year of residency teaching under a
9 professional development plan developed by the principal
10 or qualified equivalent and the preparation program. At the
11 completion of the third year, a candidate must have
12 positive evaluations and a recommendation for full
13 licensure from both the principal or qualified equivalent
14 and the program coordinator or no Professional Educator
15 License shall be issued.

16 Successful completion of the program shall be deemed to
17 satisfy any other practice or student teaching and content
18 matter requirements established by law.

19 (c) An alternative provisional educator endorsement on an
20 Educator License with Stipulations is valid for 2 years of
21 teaching in the public schools, including without limitation a
22 preschool educational program under Section 2-3.71 of this Code
23 or charter school, or in a State-recognized nonpublic school in
24 which the chief administrator is required to have the licensure
25 necessary to be a principal in a public school in this State
26 and in which a majority of the teachers are required to have

1 the licensure necessary to be instructors in a public school in
2 this State, but may be renewed for a third year if needed to
3 complete the Alternative Educator Licensure Program for
4 Teachers. The endorsement shall be issued only once to an
5 individual who meets all of the following requirements:

6 (1) Has graduated from a regionally accredited college
7 or university with a bachelor's degree or higher.

8 (2) Has a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or
9 greater on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent on another scale.

10 (3) Has completed a major in the content area if
11 seeking a middle or secondary level endorsement or, if
12 seeking an early childhood, elementary, or special
13 education endorsement, has completed a major in the content
14 area of reading, English/language arts, mathematics, or
15 one of the sciences. If the individual does not have a
16 major in a content area for any level of teaching, he or
17 she must submit transcripts to the State Board of Education
18 to be reviewed for equivalency.

19 (4) Has successfully completed phase (1) of subsection
20 (b) of this Section.

21 (5) Has passed a test of basic skills and content area
22 test required for the specific endorsement for admission
23 into the program, as required under Section 21B-30 of this
24 Code.

25 A candidate possessing the alternative provisional
26 educator endorsement may receive a salary, benefits, and any

1 other terms of employment offered to teachers in the school who
2 are members of an exclusive bargaining representative, if any,
3 but a school is not required to provide these benefits during
4 the years of residency if the candidate is serving only as a
5 co-teacher. If the candidate is serving as the teacher of
6 record, the candidate must receive a salary, benefits, and any
7 other terms of employment. Residency experiences must not be
8 counted towards tenure.

9 (d) The recognized institution offering the Alternative
10 Educator Licensure Program for Teachers must partner with a
11 school district, including without limitation a preschool
12 educational program under Section 2-3.71 of this Code or
13 charter school, or a State-recognized, nonpublic school in this
14 State in which the chief administrator is required to have the
15 licensure necessary to be a principal in a public school in
16 this State and in which a majority of the teachers are required
17 to have the licensure necessary to be instructors in a public
18 school in this State. A recognized institution that partners
19 with a public school district administering a preschool
20 educational program under Section 2-3.71 of this Code must
21 require a principal to recommend or evaluate candidates in the
22 program. A recognized institution that partners with an
23 eligible entity administering a preschool educational program
24 under Section 2-3.71 of this Code and that is not a public
25 school district must require a principal or qualified
26 equivalent of a principal to recommend or evaluate candidates

1 in the program. The program presented for approval by the State
2 Board of Education must demonstrate the supports that are to be
3 provided to assist the provisional teacher during the 2-year
4 residency period. These supports must provide additional
5 contact hours with mentors during the first year of residency.

6 (e) Upon completion of the 4 phases outlined in subsection
7 (b) of this Section and all assessments required under Section
8 21B-30 of this Code, an individual shall receive a Professional
9 Educator License.

10 (f) The State Board of Education, in consultation with the
11 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, may adopt such
12 rules as may be necessary to establish and implement the
13 Alternative Educator Licensure Program for Teachers.

14 (Source: P.A. 99-58, eff. 7-16-15; 100-596, eff. 7-1-18;
15 100-822, eff. 1-1-19.)

16 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
17 becoming law.